

Archil Talakvadze Criticizes Opposition for Attempting to 'Personalize' 'De-Oligarchization' Bill



behind the scenes that potential oligarchs might be financing them, so they saw a danger in this law. It is incorrect to point a hand at us here, the Venice Commission criticized exactly the request for personalization that the radical opposition had," said Talakvadze.

Regarding the conclusion of the Venice Commission, according to which the bill submitted for evaluation is personalized and they prefer a systematic approach, Talakvadze said that the implementation of systemic reforms and the adoption of the de-oligarchization project will not interfere with each other.

"As for the systemic approach, yes, there is such an approach, Georgia has continuously improved all system components over the years, and we will continue this work in the future. All this was up to a certain level, which had positive evaluations when Georgia accepted this recommendation, meaning, the European Union considered that something more needs to be done, and Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine have similar recommendations, they have also initiated a similar law. This does not interfere with each other, the improvement of system components will continue, the parliament will also adopt this law in the most sophisticated form," said Talakvadze.

By Liza Mchedlidze

Archil Talakvadze, a member of the parliamentary majority, told reporters regarding the 'de-oligarchization' bill that

the opposition wanted to personalize the draft law when they demanded to include specific names in it, and according to him, the Venice Commission criticized this approach.

"People directly asked to write down the name of a specific person, what statements did we make?! - I remember our statements by heart: when the opposition changed its position dia-

metrically - at first they were telling us, you won't dare to pass the law, then they turned around and said that this law is bad, so we made statements that someone pointed out to them from

'Vivamed' Appeals to Medical Service of Penitentiary Institution to Evaluate Mikheil Saakashvili's Further Stay in Their Clinic

By Liza Mchedlidze

The Clinic 'Vivamed' published an open letter which reads that they are 'forced' to appeal to the Medical Service of the Penitentiary Institution to evaluate the expediency of the further delay of the former president of Georgia, Mikheil Saakashvili in 'Vivamed'. The reason for this, according to the clinic, is that patient Mikheil Saakashvili is refusing the medical treatment offered by them and the clinic has suffered with 'reputational damage' from this case.

The administration of the clinic stated that for the last month Mikheil Saakashvili has been receiving only symptomatic treatment, has been expressing distrust towards the medical staff and has been refusing the proposed treatment scheme.

According to 'Vivamed', the symptomatic treatment to which the patient consents is possible in any other institution.

"I would like to remind you that the

patient M. Saakashvili has been in the Vivamed clinic since May 12, 2022. The patient underwent a full range of examinations, a diagnosis was made and a treatment scheme was determined in accordance with modern guidelines.

All this time, despite the unprecedented pressure on us, we tried to convince the patient to undergo a course of treatment, which was more or less successful until the month of October, and there was a noticeable improvement in the state of health. Since October of last year, the patient refuses the proposed treatment, especially if this or that drug or procedure has a positive effect on his subjective or objective data.

Therefore, for the last month, the patient has been receiving only symptomatic treatment, expresses distrust towards the medical staff and refuses the proposed treatment scheme.

As a result, the medical center



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Exchange Rates: US Dollar - 2.5754; Euro - 2.7778; GBP - 3.1644; 100 Russian Ruble - 3.3407; Swiss Franc - 2.7921

'Vivamed' Appeals to Medical Service of Penitentiary Institution to Evaluate Mikheil Saakashvili's Further Stay in Their Clinic

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'Vivamed' undeservedly receives a huge reputational damage (for example: we do

not treat, we cannot treat, etc.), which we consider categorically unacceptable. Based on medical ethics, medical personnel cannot forcefully treat anyone.

Considering all this, we are probably forced to ask the medical service of the penitentiary institution to evaluate the patient M.Saakashvili's expediency of

further delay in the clinic 'Vivamed', since the symptomatic treatment to which the patient consents, is possible in any other institution," the statement reads.

The News in Brief

PREPARED BY MESSENGER STAFF

Public Defender Levan Ioseliani Meets with US Ambassador to Georgia Kelly Degnan



Public Defender Levan Ioseliani met with the United States Ambassador to Georgia, Kelly Degnan.

Degnan congratulated Levan Ioseliani on his election to the position of Public Defender and wished him success.

"The ambassador expressed great respect for the institution and promised to support it in the difficult task of protecting human rights. At the meeting, the

parties confirmed their desire and readiness to continue the tradition of close cooperation between the Public Defender and the US Embassy," the information released by the Office of the Public Defender states.

The US Embassy in Georgia also released a statement regarding the meeting and expressed support for the Public Defender's Office and every organization protecting human rights in Georgia.

"The Institute of the Public Defender is an achievement of Georgian democracy. Its independence is essential for the supervision of the protection of human rights and freedoms in Georgia. We proudly support the entire team of the Public Defender, as well as every person and organization working to protect human rights in our partner country," the embassy said in a statement.

Russian Duma Deputy Leonid Kalashnikov says Russia and Georgia are 'on the verge' of resumption of air traffic and cancellation of Visa policy

Leonid Kalashnikov, deputy

for the Communist Party in the Russian Duma and the head of the committee on Commonwealth of Independent States Affairs, Eurasian Integration and Relations with Compatriots

News Agency 'Tass'.

According to Kalashnikov, it is difficult for him to say when these decisions will be made and in what order.

"I have spoken to many high-



stated at economic forum under the title 'Prospects for the development of economic relations between Russia and Georgia', that Russia and Georgia are on the verge of resuming direct air traffic, as well as canceling Visa policy.

The information was published by the Russian State

ranking officials, including those regarding the issue we have touched upon. Very sensitive issues that need to be resolved - air traffic and cancellation of visas in Russia. I must say that we are on the edge of these decisions," Kalashnikov said.

Federal Minister of Foreign Affairs Annalena Baerbock visits Georgia



The German Federal Minister of Foreign Affairs Annalena Baerbock will visit Georgia from March 23 to 24, 2023.

The planned programme includes meetings with the President of Georgia, H.E. Salome Zurbashvili, with the Prime Minister, H.E. Irakli Garibashvili, and with the Foreign Minister, H.E. Ilya Darchiashvili. In addition, the Federal Minister of Germany will meet with students and representatives of civil society and the opposition. The programme also includes a visit to the ad-

ministrative boundary line close to the breakaway region of South Ossetia and a briefing by the European Monitoring Mission (EUMM), to which Germany is the largest contributor in terms of troops.

The talks will focus on German support for Georgia's rapprochement with the EU and NATO and the respective reforms. The aim of the trip is to promote a close and direct exchange between the two countries and to deepen the excellent cooperation for Georgia's European future.

Weather

Thursday, March 23

Day Partly Cloudy

High: 18°C

Night Mostly Cloudy

Low: 8°C

Friday, March 24

Day Partly Cloudy

High: 20°C

Night Mostly Cloudy

Low: 9°C

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therefore, the opinions expressed in some articles do not necessarily coincide with those of the newspaper. We take no responsibility for any claims made in advertisements.

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On the occasion of the 30th Anniversary of the Establishment of Czech-Georgian Diplomatic Relations, the Embassy of the Czech Republic in Tbilisi organized Concert of the Ensemble Moscheles on March 21.



Czech Ambassador, H.E. Mr. Petr Mikyska



Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Georgia, Ms. Khatuna Totladze







